



NEWS RELEASE

Congressman Robin Hayes - 8th District, North Carolina

For Immediate Release: Friday, September 13, 2002

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Congressman Robin Hayes Issues Statement On Iraq *Says Weapons Inspections Must Be Enforced*

WASHINGTON, DC - Congressman Robin Hayes issued the following statement in response to President George Bush's address to the United Nations on Iraq:

Following the Gulf War, The United Nations ordered Iraq to completely open themselves to arms inspectors to ensure that Saddam Hussein is not developing weapons of mass destruction. Saddam Hussein has continued to defy that order, and there is strong evidence that indicates Saddam is developing mass quantities of chemical, biological and even nuclear weapons. Saddam has used these weapons against other nations and against his own people. With these weapons, Saddam will become the merchant for weapons of mass destruction for terrorists around the globe. Under Saddam's regime, Iraq poses a serious threat to peace and stability in the world.

The United Nations obviously agrees that Saddam is a threat, because it has ordered him to stop the development of these weapons and to subject Iraq to unbridled inspections. Unfortunately, Iraq has repeatedly defied this order and the U.N. has failed to enforce it. With the passing of each new day, Saddam manufactures more weapons and develops new ones that terrorists will use to threaten and harm nations including the United States. I believe that the time has come to fully enforce the weapons inspections in Iraq. I hope the U.N. will take action to fully enforce inspections in Iraq, but if that body fails to take proper action, we must explore other options to get the job done. We cannot hinge the security of the United States to the actions and inactions of the United Nations.

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Yesterday, the President said, *“Saddam Hussein’s regime is a grave and gathering danger - to suggest otherwise is to hope against the evidence. To assume this regime’s good faith is to bet the lives of millions and the peace of the world in a reckless gamble. And this is a risk we must not take.”* **I agree.**

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